

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GENEVA 03241 292048Z
ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 OES-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-04 H-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 ACDA-07 DPW-01 TRSE-00
AF-10 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 /120 W
-----292100Z 063119 /61

P R 291702Z APR 77
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6952
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 3241

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: ICRC, PARM, PFOR
SUBJECT: DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL HUMANIT-
ARIAN LAW - ISSUES OF CONCERN TO ISRAEL

REFS: STATE 95850; STATE 93311

1. DURING LUNCH TODAY BETWEEN ALDRICH AND ROSENNS (ISRAIL), PROBLEMS CONCERNING GUERRILLAS APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN RESOLVED. ROSENNE, APPRECIATED OUR DETAILED VIEWS ON PROPER INTERPRETATION OF ARTICLE 42 AND SEEMED GREATLY RELIEVED TO LEARN THAT ALDRICH INTENDS TO STATE THESE INTERPRETATIONS FOR THE RECORD DURING FINAL PLENARIES. IN PARTICULAR, ROSENNE ATTACHEES IMPORTANCE TO STATEMENT WE PROPOSE TO MAKE POINTING OUT REASONS WHY THE ARTICLE DOES NOT PROMOTE TERRORISM AND WHY IT GIVES NO PROTECTION TO TERRORIST GROUPS THAT, AS A CONSISTENT POLICY, IGNORE THE LAWS OF WAR. THIS LATTER STATEMENT WILL POINT TO THE REQUIREMENT IN ARTICLE 41 THAT THE ARMED FORCES OF ANY PARTY TO A CONFLICT MUST HAVE A DISCIPLINARY SYSTEM THAT ENFORCES RESPECT FOR THE LAWS OF WAR.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GENEVA 03241 292048Z

2. ROSENNE CONFIRMED THAT ONLY ISSUE REMAINING BEFORE COMMITTEES OF DEEP INTERST TO ISRAEL IS QUESTION OF RECOGNITION OF RED SHIELD OF DAVID (ISRAELI EQUIVALENT OF RED CROSS) WHICH ISRAEL HAS PROPOSED AND WHICH IS LAST ISSUE ON AGENDA OF COMMITTEE I. IT WILL PROBABLY BE REACHED DURING WEEK BEGINNING MAY 9.

3. ROSENNE SAID THAT DECISION TO INTRODUCE ARTICLE ON RECOGNITION OF RED SHIELD HAD BEEN TAKEN SEVERAL YEARS AGO AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF THEIR GOVERNMENT. ALTHOUGH HE PRESENTLY EXPECTS TO PRESS THE ISSUE TO A VOTE IN COMMITTEE I, HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THIS TACTIC COULD BE RECONSIDERED, PARTICULARLY WITH A NEW ACTING PRIME MINISTER IN OFFICE AND WITH ISRAELI ELECTIONS OCCURRING THE WEEK AFTER THE VOTE IN GENEVA. FROM THIS, WE CONCLUDE THAT FINAL DECISION WHETHER TO PRESS FOR VOTE WILL BE MADE IN TEL AVIV LATE NEXT WEEK AFTER RECEIVING ROSENNE'S VOTE COUNT AND RECOMMENDATION.

4. ALDRICH POINTED OUT THAT, QUITE APART FROM RISKS POSED TO DE FACTO RESPECT FOR RED SHIELD, A RISK ROSENNE DISCOUNTS, THE MORE IMPORTANT EFFORTS TO CREATE A CLIMATE OF OPINION IN THE MIDDLE EAST CONDUCIVE TO PEACE WOULD NOT BE AIDED BY PRESSING FOR A VOTE WHICH ISRAEL WAS CERTAIN TO LOSE BY AN OVERWHELMING MARGIN. HOWEVER, ALDRICH MADE CLEAR THAT WE RECOGNIZE THIS IS A DECISION WHICH ONLY GOI CAN TAKE AND, IF THEY DECIDE TO PRESS THE ISSUE TO A VOTE, THEY CAN BE ASSURED OF OUR SUPPORT.

5. IT IS OUR BELIEF, ON WHICH EMBASSY TEL AVIV WOULD BE MORE QUALIFIED TO COMMENT, THAT ROSENNE MAY SEE SOME DOMESTIC POLITICAL ADVANTAGE IN ISRAEL IN PRESSING THIS QUESTION TO A VOTE AT THE CONFERENCE. CERTAINLY AS A MATTER OF INTERNATIONAL REACTION, IT CANNOT BE IN EITHER ISRAEL'S INTEREST OR U.S. INTEREST TO HAVE SUCH A VOTE.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 GENEVA 03241 292048Z

6. EARLY NEXT WEEK WE SHALL CONSULT OTHER MEMBERS OF WESTERN EUROPEAN AND OTHERS GROUP AND REPORT, BOTH TO DEPARTMENT AND TO ROSENNE, THE LIKELY VOTE COUNT. IF IT IS AS UNFAVORABLE TO ISRAEL AS WE EXPECT, PERHAPS DEPARTMENT AND EMBASSY TEL AVIV COULD IMPRESS ON GOI THE FUTILITY OF THIS EFFORT AND THE UNFORTUNATE EFFECTS IT COULD HAVE. SORENSEN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, LAW, AGREEMENTS, WAR, MEETINGS, TERRORISTS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 29-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977GENEVA03241
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770150-1032
Format: TEL
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977046/aaaaaege.tel
Line Count: 105
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8f39b2a5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION L
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 95850, 77 STATE 93311
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2812957
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL HUMANIT- ARIAN LAW - ISSUES OF CONCERN TO ISRAEL
TAGS: PARM, PFOR, ICRC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8f39b2a5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009